

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

a) updating an understanding of an ATM PNNI network after reception of PTSE information, said PTSE information including a first field bundled with a System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) field, the first field describing a bit rate service category of a link in the network, the SIG field describing having SIG information that describes bandwidth which has been allocated allocations made to specific priority levels of the bit rate service category of the link a bandwidth resource, said bandwidth resource within said ATM PNNI network;

b) determining a path through said network for a requested connection, said path determined in light of said updated understanding, said requested connection having a priority level, wherein said determined path results in one or more connections being dropped in order to allow bandwidth for said requested connection, each of said dropped connections having a lower priority level than said priority level of said requested connection.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~13~~ 12 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the first field of the PTSE information further includes one or more QoS parameters for the bit rate service category of the link said bandwidth resource is a portion of the bandwidth that resides within said ATM PNNI network.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a CBR service and said requested connection can be established within said CBR service.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a VBR service and said requested connection can be established within said VBR service.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes an ABR service and said requested connection can be established within said ABR service.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a UBR service and said requested connection can be established within said UBR service.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising issuing a SETUP message in order to establish said path through said network for said requested connection.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising receiving said SETUP message and returning a CONNECT message in response.

Claims 23-33 (Canceled).

34. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a digital processing system cause said digital processing system to:

a) update an understanding of an ATM PNNI network after reception of PTSE information, said PTSE information including a first field bundled with a System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) field, the first field describing a bit rate service category of a link in the network, the SIG field describing bandwidth which has been allocated allocations made to specific priority levels of the bit rate service category of the link a bandwidth resource, said bandwidth resource within said ATM PNNI network;

b) determine a path through said network for a requested connection, said path determined in light of said updated understanding, said requested connection having a priority level, wherein said determined path results in one or more connections being dropped in order to

allow bandwidth for said requested connection, each of said dropped connections having a lower priority level than said priority level of said requested connection.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim ~~35~~34 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

37. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 34 wherein the first field of the PTSE information further includes one or more QoS parameters for the bit rate service category of the link~~said bandwidth resource is a portion of the bandwidth that resides within said ATM PNNI network.~~

38. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 37 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

39. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 38 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a CBR service and said requested connection can be established within said CBR service.

40. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 38 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a VBR service and said requested connection can be established within said VBR service.

41. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 38 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes an ABR service and said requested connection can be established within said ABR service.

42. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 38 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a UBR service and said requested connection can be established within said UBR service.

43. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 34 further comprising authorizing an issuance of a SETUP message in order to establish said path through said network for said requested connection.

44. (Currently Amended) A network node to operate as part of a network, comprising:

means for receiving PTSE information from a plurality of other nodes in the network, the ~~PTS-PTSE~~ PTSE information including a first field bundled with a System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) field, the first field describing a bit rate service category of a link in the network, the SIG field describing ~~describes~~ bandwidth which has been allocated ~~allocations made to specific~~ priority levels of the bit rate service category of the link ~~a bandwidth resource in the network~~; and

means for determining a path through the network for a requested connection, using the received PTSE information, the requested connection having a priority level, wherein determining the path results in one or more connections being dropped to allow bandwidth for the requested connection, each of the dropped connections having a lower priority level than that of the requested connection.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim ~~45~~ 44 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

47. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim 44 wherein the first field of the PTSE information further includes one or more QoS parameters for the bit rate service category of the link ~~said bandwidth resource is a portion of the bandwidth that resides within said ATM PNNI network.~~

48. (Previously Presented) The network node of claim 47 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

49. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim 48 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a CBR service.

50. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim 48 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a VBR service.

51. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim 48 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes an ABR service.

52. (Currently Amended) The network node of claim 48 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a UBR service.

53. (Currently Amended) A networking node to operate as part of a network, comprising:

a processing core to execute a software program ~~and thereby (1) to enable the networking node to (1)~~ access PTSE information received by the networking node from another node in the network, the PTSE information including a first field bundled with a System Capabilities Information Group (SIG) field, the first field describing a bit rate service category of a link in the network, the SIG field describing ~~describes~~ ~~bandwidth which has been allocated~~ ~~allocations made to specific priority levels of a bandwidth resource in the network~~ the bit rate service category of the link, and (2) determine a path through the network for a requested connection, using the received PTSE information, the requested connection having a priority level, wherein determining the path results in one or more connections being dropped to allow bandwidth for the requested connection, each of the dropped connections having a lower priority level than that of the requested connection.

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Currently Amended) The networking node of claim ~~54~~53 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

56. (Currently Amended) The networking node of claim 53 wherein ~~said bandwidth resource is a portion of the bandwidth that resides within said ATM PNNI network~~ the first field of the PTSE information further includes one or more QoS parameters for the bit rate service category of the link.

57. (Previously Presented) The networking node of claim 56 wherein said PTSE information is a Horizontal Link PTSE information type.

58. (Currently Amended) The networking node of claim 57 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a CBR service.

59. (Currently Amended) The networking node of claim 57 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a VBR service.

60. (Currently Amended) The networking node of claim 57 wherein the bit rate service category in said PTSE information describes a UBR service.